

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 TRSE-00
XMB-02 OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DLOS-06
SAL-01 FAA-00 DOTE-00 SAJ-01 /106 W
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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5818
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BERN
ACONSUL ADANA 6323
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION NATO
USDOCOSOUTH

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 9256

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, TU,GR
SUBJ: MFA COMMENTS ON STATUS OF AIRSPACE AND CONTINENTAL SHELF
NEGOTIATIONS

REF: A) BERN 5260, B) STATE 293083, C) STATE 303073

1. EMBOFF REVIEWED POST-BRUSSELS STATUS OF CONTINENTAL SHELF
AND AEGEAN AIRSPACE DISPUTES IN SEPARATE CONVERSATIONS WITH
MFA OFFICERS RIZA TURMEN AND GAZNE SOYSAL DECEMBER 14.

2. AEGEAN/LOS CHIEF TURMEN SAID THAT FONMINS BITSIOS AND
CAGLAYANGIL HAD AGREED IN BRUSSELS THAT THE JOINT COMMISSION
(ESTABLISHED BY ARTICLE 8 OF THE BERN PROCESS VERBAL) WOULD MEET
IN LATE JANUARY, BUT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AGREEMENT, NO
PUBLICITY WILL BE GIVEN TO THE MEETING. TURMEN STATED THAT IT
WAS NOT DEFINITE THAT THE NEGOTIATING TEAMS WOULD ALSO MEET AT
THAT TIME. ACCORDING TO TURMEN, THE GOT PREFERS SIMULTANEOUS
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SESSIONS OF THE NEGOTIATING TEAMS AND THE JOINT COMMISSION, IN THE
HOPE THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS COULD PRESSURE THE JOINT COMMISSION TO
AGREE ON VALID PRECEDENTS AND AVOID STALLING TACTICS. TURMEN
OUTLINED THE GOT'S EXPECTATIONS FOR THE COMMISSION IN TERMS SIMILAR

TO AMBASSADOR BILGE'S REMARKS (PARA 7, REF A); I.E., THAT THE COMMISSION WOULD EXAMINE OTHER DELIMITATION PROBLEMS AND THEIR RESOLUTIONS ON A CEASE-BY-CASE BASIS IN AN ATTEMPT TO ESTABLISH SUITABLE PRECEDENTS. HE SAID HE HOPED THAT THE COMMISSION'S DISCUSSIONS WOULD PROCEED ON A PRAGMATIC BASIS, WOULD AVOID FURTHER STERILE DEBATE OF PRINCIPLES (I.E. MEDIAN LINE VS. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES OR 1958 GENEVA AGREEMENT VS. NORTH SEA DECISION) AND WOULD SIMPLY ASSIST THE NEGOTIATORS IN THE PROCESS OF DRAWING A LINE IN THE AEGEAN.

3. TURMEN INQUIRED ABOUT THE TIMING ON CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL OF THE U.S. TURKISH DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT (DCA). HE CONCERN, HE SAID, WAS BASED ON APPREHENSION THAT THE GOG WOULD NOT BE WILLING TO NEGOTIATE SERIOUSLY PENDING RESOLUTION OF THE DCA ISSUE. (THIS IS NOT THE FIRST TIME WE HAVE HEARD THE OPINION HERE THAT THE GOG DOES NOT WISH TO REACH EARLY AGREEMENT WITH GOT, BECAUSE ANY AGREEMENT MIGHT ENHANCE CONGRESSIONAL IMPRESSIONS OF GOT REASONABLENESS AND IMPROVE PROSPECTS FOR PASSAGE OF DCA THUS LESSEN THE PRESSURE GOG CAN PUT ON TURKEY IN OTHER DISPUTED ISSUES). EMBOFF SUGGESTED THAT GOG, FOR ITS PART, MAY HAVE REASON TO SUSPECT GOT'S WILLINGNESS TO REACH A SETTLEMENT PRIOR TO THIS YEAR'S GENERAL ELECTIONS. IN RESPONSE, TURMEN SAID THE GOVERNMENT WANTS A SOLUTION, EVEN THOUGH HE, AS A TECHNICIAN, MIGHT PREFER TO RESERVE TURKEY'S OPTIONS PENDING ELECTION OF A NEW GOVERNMENT.

4. CONCERNING AEGEAN AIRSPACE NEGOTIATIONS, GAZNE SOYSAL, ALSO OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, SAID THAT NO DATE FOR FURTHER TALKS HAD BEEN SET AT THE BRUSSELS MEETING BETWEEN CAGLAYANGIL AND BITSIOS. HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO SOYSAL, THERE MAY BE AN ANNOUNCEMENT IN THE NEAR FUTURE OF A RESUMPTION OF DISCUSSIONS. ASKED WHOSE COURT THE BALL IS IN, SOYSAL RESPONDED THAT THE NEXT MOVE IS UP TO WHOEVER HAS THE NEXT CONCESSION TO OFFER. THE GOT, HE INDICATED, HAS ALREADY MADE ITS MAJOR CONCESSION IN AGREEING TO NOTIFICATIONS ON FLIGHTS OCCURRING OVER PORTIONS OF THE TURKISH MAINLAND. THIS CONCESSION WAS AT CAGLAYANGIL'S INSISTENCE, OVER THE OBJECTIONS OF OTHERS WITHIN THE MFA. OTHER
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STATEMENTS BY SOYSAL WERE IN AGREEMENT WITH TURKISH EMBASSY COUNSELOR PELIT'S BRIEFING OF DEPARTMENT OFFICER NOVEMBER 30 (REF B).

5. CAGLAYANGIL, IN AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH AKAJANS NEWS AGENCY PUBLISHED IN DECEMBER 15 TERCUMAN, COMMENTED BRIEFLY ON HIS BRUSSELS MEETING WITH BITSIOS. HE SAID, "EVERY MEETING ENABLES US TO BETTER UNDERSTAND ONE ANOTHER'S PROBLEMS. IF I MAY MAKE AN ASSESSMENT OF THE MEETING, I CAN SAY THAT TURKEY AND GREECE ARE ACTING WITH GOOD WILL AND DETERMINATION TO SOLVE THEIR RELATIONS WITH AN AGREEMENT. I NOTE THIS WITH SATISFACTION."

6. PRIMIN DEMIREL IS SCHEDULED TO HOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE

DECEMBER 16 AT WHICH STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS COULD WELL BE
DISCUSSED.
MACOMBER

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